wherein each of said plurality of application [programmer] program interface means complies with a common standard for application programmer interfaces[.];

A1

wherein each of said plurality of application program interface means manipulating the data to reflect the current resource state.

A2

5. (Amended) The computer of claim 1, wherein said resource management means further comprises:

a table manager [tabman] resource manager;

a queue logic manager [queman] resource manager;

a [sysmem] system manager resource manager; and

a [shmman] shared memory manager resource manager.

A3

8. (Amended) The computer of claim 3, wherein said data comprises one or more of:

semaphore data;

switch controller data;

agent data;

call data block data;

service logic program data; and

switch data.

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed April 27, 2000, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. In this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5 and 8 are amended, no claims are cancelled and no claims are added so that claims 1-20 are pending. No new matter has been introduced.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Claim 8 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 5 has been amended to more particularly and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-7 and 20 were rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,825,857 to Reto et al. (hereafter Reto). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention as claimed in amended claim 1 is directed to a computer in a telecommunications network. The computer comprising a processor, and a resource management means for enabling said processor to provide standardized management of multiple resources including internal operational resources, external components, and applications processing data,

wherein said resource management means comprises one or more resource managers, said resource managers being one of:

a semaphore resource manager;

a switch controller resource manager;

an agent resource manager;

a call data block resource manager;

a service logic resource manager; or

a switch resource resource manager;

wherein each of said resource managers comprises:

one or more resource manager application program interfaces that manage said internal operational resources, said external components, and said applications processing data; and

one or more data storing means for enabling said processor to store data in table format related to said internal operational resources, said external components, and said applications processing data, said application interfaces manipulating the data to reflect the current resource state.

The present invention as claimed in amended claim 2 is directed to a method for managing resources within a network. The method comprising (i) sending a query to a resource manager, wherein said resource manager manages information corresponding to a resource, said resource manager complying with a common standard for resource managers within the network, and (ii) managing data stored in memory and organized in a table format using said query, including manipulating the data to reflect the current resource state;

wherein said data is one of:

semaphore data;

switch controller data;

agent data;

call data block data;
service logic program data; or
switch data.

The present invention as claimed in amended claim 3 is directed to a computer in a telecommunications network. The computer comprising a processor, and plurality of application program interface means for enabling said processor which is connected to a memory, to provide an interface between one or more resource requesters and data organized in a plurality of tables, each of said plurality of tables corresponding to one of a plurality of resources, each of said plurality of application program interface means comprising:

sending means for sending a query; and

managing means for managing data stored in said memory and organized in table format using said query;

wherein said application program interface means provides system-wide interface with said data;

wherein each of said plurality of application program interface means complies with a common standard for application programmer interfaces;

wherein each of said plurality of application program interface means manipulating the data to reflect the current resources state.

Reto discloses a system having a hubbed architecture for communicating validation messages relating to a calling card number to be validated between a telecommunications network which accepts a calling card and the telecommunications network which issued the card. The hubbing system provides transport links and protocol translation between ANSI, SS7, ITU, CCS7 and X.25 for each telecommunications network which is attached. The system comprises a first gateway coupled to a card acceptor network, a second gateway coupled to the first gateway and a card issuer network, and a validation hubbing means coupled to the gateways for providing a common hub.

Anticipation exists only if all of the elements of the claimed invention are present in a system or method disclosed, expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference. In each of the independent claims set forth above, it is specifically claimed that the data is manipulated to reflect the current resource state in the network as part of a system/method for resource management. Reto fails to disclose this particular aspect. Since Reto fails to disclose this aspect, there can be

no anticipation. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 9-11 and 15-19 were rejected as unpatentable over Reto in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,937,042 to Sofman. Claims 8 and 12-14 were rejected as unpatentable over Reto in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,920,621 to Gottlieb. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Sofman discloses a method and system for determining an optimal telecommunications network configuration. The system distributes telecommunications traffic properly on a switched network by automatically analyzing network data, calculating optimal network configurations according to the network data and providing recommendations for rehave configurations. Rehave - a network charge which involves moving telephone service traffic from one switching center to a different switching center.

Gottlieb discloses a system/method for distributing calls to home operations and customer service/operator center operators.

None of the references, whether taken alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the invention claimed in independent claims 1-3. Since claims 1-3 are allowable for the reasons given above, all claims dependent therefrom are also allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicant would be willing to interview the present case if the Examiner so desires.

A favorable Action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl J. Evens
Registration No. 33,874